

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for providing an automatic called party locator service by intelligently managing lists of contacts. The apparatus includes a contact list manager (10) where lists  
5 of contacts are stored, and a locator (60) capable of sending out location request messages and  
receiving and handling responses. In some embodiments, the current invention may be integrated  
with call messaging systems, fax and or e-mail systems. In some cases, advanced features such as  
message delivery method selection, message customization, contact message retrieval or expiration  
and automatic call dialing may be enabled. In embodiments which support caller identification  
10 capabilities, the invention may be configured to have different behaviors based on the identification  
of the caller.